

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 121st MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2003

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Legislative Document

No. 908

S.P. 304

In Senate, February 20, 2003

**An Act To Authorize a General Fund Bond Issue in the Amount of  
\$1,000,000 To Provide Funds to Riverfront Municipalities To  
Develop Riverfront Cultural Heritage Centers**

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Reference to the Committee on Appropriations and Financial Affairs suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading 'Joy J. O'Brien'.

JOY J. O'BRIEN  
Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator GAGNON of Kennebec.  
Cosponsored by Representative CANAVAN of Waterville and  
Senators: CATHCART of Penobscot, MITCHELL of Penobscot, ROTUNDO of  
Androscoggin, SAWYER of Penobscot, STRIMLING of Cumberland, Representatives:  
FLETCHER of Winslow, SUSLOVIC of Portland, THOMPSON of China.

2           **Preamble.** Two thirds of both Houses of the Legislature  
deeming it necessary in accordance with the Constitution of  
4           Maine, Article IX, Section 14 to authorize the issuance of bonds  
on behalf of the State of Maine to provide funds as described in  
6           this Act,

8           **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

10           **Sec. 1. Authorization of bonds.** The Treasurer of State is  
authorized, under the direction of the Governor, to issue bonds  
12           in the name and on behalf of the State in an amount not exceeding  
\$1,000,000 to raise funds for riverfront municipalities that are  
14           suffering hardships due to loss of jobs to develop riverfront  
cultural heritage centers as authorized by this Act. The bonds  
16           are a pledge of the full faith and credit of the State. The  
bonds may not run for a period longer than 10 years from the date  
18           of the original issue of the bonds. At the discretion of the  
Treasurer of State, with the approval of the Governor, any  
issuance of bonds may contain a call feature.

20           **Sec. 2. Records of bonds issued kept by Treasurer of State.** The  
22           Treasurer of State shall keep an account of each bond showing the  
number of the bond, the name of the successful bidder to whom  
24           sold, the amount received for the bond, the date of sale and the  
date when payable.

26           **Sec. 3. Sale; how negotiated; proceeds appropriated.** The  
28           Treasurer of State may negotiate the sale of the bonds by  
direction of the Governor, but no bond may be loaned, pledged or  
30           hypothecated on behalf of the State. The proceeds of the sale of  
the bonds, which must be held by the Treasurer of State and paid  
32           by the Treasurer of State upon warrants drawn by the State  
Controller, are appropriated solely for the purposes set forth in  
34           this Act. Any unencumbered balances remaining at the completion  
of the project in this Act lapse to the debt service account  
36           established for the retirement of these bonds.

38           **Sec. 4. Interest and debt retirement.** The Treasurer of State  
shall pay interest due or accruing on any bonds issued under this  
40           Act and all sums coming due for payment of bonds at maturity.

42           **Sec. 5. Disbursement of bond proceeds.** The proceeds of the  
bonds must be expended as set out in this Act under the direction  
44           and supervision of the Department of Economic and Community  
Development.

46           **Sec. 6. Allocations from General Fund bond issue.** The proceeds  
48           of the sale of the bonds must be expended as designated in the  
following schedule.

4 To provide funds to riverfront municipalities  
6 that are suffering hardships due to loss of  
8 jobs to develop riverfront cultural  
heritage centers.

10 **Sec. 7. Contingent upon ratification of bond issue.** Sections 1 to  
12 6 do not become effective unless the people of the State ratify  
the issuance of the bonds as set forth in this Act.

14 **Sec. 8. Appropriation balances at year-end.** At the end of each  
16 fiscal year, all unencumbered appropriation balances representing  
state money carry forward. Bond proceeds that have not been  
18 expended within 10 years after the date of the sale of the bonds  
lapse to General Fund debt service.

20 **Sec. 9. Bonds authorized but not issued.** Any bonds authorized  
22 but not issued, or for which bond anticipation notes are not  
issued within 5 years of ratification of this Act, are  
24 deauthorized and may not be issued, except that the Legislature  
may, within 2 years after the expiration of that 5-year period,  
26 extend the period for issuing any remaining unissued bonds or  
bond anticipation notes for an additional amount of time not to  
exceed 5 years.

28 **Sec. 10. Referendum for ratification; submission at statewide  
election; form of question; effective date.** This Act must be submitted  
30 to the legal voters of the State at a statewide election held on  
the Tuesday following the first Monday of November following  
32 passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this State shall  
notify the inhabitants of their respective cities, towns and  
34 plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law for holding  
a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of  
36 this Act by voting on the following question:

38 "Do you favor a \$1,000,000 bond issue for the purpose of  
40 providing funds to riverfront municipalities that are  
suffering hardships due to loss of jobs to develop  
42 riverfront cultural heritage centers?"

44 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall  
vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a  
46 cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below  
the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted,  
48 counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings  
and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as  
votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review

2 the returns and, if a majority of the legal votes are cast in  
4 favor of this Act, the Governor shall proclaim the result without  
the proclamation.

6 The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each  
8 city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this  
Act necessary to carry out the purposes of this referendum.

10

### **SUMMARY**

**12**

14 The funds provided by this bond issue, in the amount of  
16 \$1,000,000, will be used to provide funds to riverfront  
municipalities that are suffering hardships due to loss of jobs  
to develop riverfront cultural heritage centers.